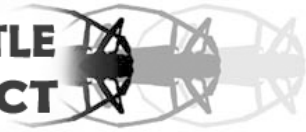




CITRUS LONGHORNED BEETLE ERADICATION PROJECT



Media Update

Washington State Department of Agriculture
September 9, 2002

OLYMPIA — The Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) is continuing its efforts to respond to the introduction of the **citrus longhorned beetle** (CLHB) into Washington State. The following is an update on current eradication efforts and activities intended to lessen the environmental effects of tree removal:

September Beetle Update. A fall edition of our periodic newsletter informing Tukwila residents about the latest beetle and quarantine news was distributed Thursday (September 5). The newsletter was sent to nearly 950 residents who live in the one-half mile quarantine area. To view a newsletter online, visit our beetle homepage (see link below).

WSDA files appeal. The State Attorney General's Office filed an appeal on behalf of WSDA with the Division I Court of Appeals. The appeal, filed in late August, seeks review of a portion of the decision issued by King County Superior Court Judge Deborah Fleck in early August. Specifically, the appeal seeks review of that portion of Judge Fleck's decision that held WSDA's removal of trees from three private properties constitutes a taking of property for which compensation is due.

Tree vouchers mailed in August. Eligible property owners received tree vouchers valued at \$50 or \$200 each last month. The vouchers or coupons are a part of WSDA's tree replacement program for residences in the one-eighth mile tree-cutting area. To help residents replace trees that were removed in July and August, state agriculture officials have teamed up with the Washington State Nursery and Landscape Association. WSDA views the program as an ecological investment, one that will mitigate the affects of tree removal. About two dozen nurseries in the greater Tukwila area are participating in the program. The vouchers may be redeemed for trees, shrubs and other vegetation. One option includes using coupons by Sept. 30, 2002 as a part of a bulk order to purchase trees only. Residents who exercise this option will receive a discount. To view a list of nurseries near the quarantine area, visit the WSDA Web site (see link below).

Trees for Thought: Landscaping workshop scheduled for Sept. 18. Come join the master gardeners later this month for *Trees for Thought*, a state Department of Agriculture tree planting and landscaping workshop. The free event takes place between 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Tukwila Community Center, 12424 42nd Avenue S. The workshop, designed specifically for Tukwila landowners living in the CLHB tree removal and quarantine areas, is open to the public. Featured speakers, include **Ciscoe Morris**, master gardener, arborist and KING5 TV personality, **Marty Wingate**, master gardener and Seattle Post-Intelligencer garden writer, and the Washington Native Plant Society's, **Allen Davenport**, also a master gardener. Star Nursery & Landscaping, one of the participating nurseries in the tree replacement program, will be bringing 8-foot-tall trees and some shrubs for viewing.

Survey getting underway. Survey crews have begun clearing brush to access and, ultimately, inspect trees in the one-half mile quarantine area. They will search for any evidence of the CLHB. During the next three months, crews will inspect trees from the ground and from canopy level in the greenbelt and on residential properties.

For more information...

Call our toll-free hotline at **1-800-443-6684**, e-mail us at clhb@agr.wa.gov, or visit our Web site, <http://agr.wa.gov/default.htm> and click on citrus longhorned beetle



CITRUS LONGHORNED BEETLE ERADICATION PROJECT

